

**CITIZEN'S ADVISORY GROUP ("CAG")**

**TO**

**SAN JUAN ISLAND EMS ("SJIEMS")  
SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT #1 ("SJCPHD #1")  
SAN JUAN COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3 ("FD #3")  
AND THE TOWN OF FRIDAY HARBOR ("TOWN")**

**MINUTES**

**Wednesday August 29, 2018  
6:30 pm, 849 Spring Street Unit B5**

**CAG representatives:**

Chuck Dalldorf, Town (Chair)  
George Johnson, SJCPHD #1  
Rick Frazer, at large  
Dan Paulsen, FD #3  
Mark Tompkins, at large

**Others Present:**

Nathan Butler, SJCPHD #1  
SJCPHD #1 Board Recording Sec.  
  
Pamela Hutchins  
SJCPHD #1 Superintendent

**Absent:**

None

**Others Present:**

Karin Augusta  
Warren Appleton  
Brad Creesy

**By Phone or teleconference:**

None

**Call to Order:** Chair Dalldorf called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**Approve Minutes:** By consent the group agreed that the minutes from 7/22/2018 were acceptable.

**Pamela Hutchins, SJCPHD #1 Superintendent.** Per prior arrangement, Superintendent Hutchins presented on her thoughts regarding the discussed consolidation between SJIEMS and FD #3. Full audio is on the website.

Superintendent Hutchins explained that SJCPHD #1 has two levies, both owned by SJCPHD #1. The first bond goes primarily to PeaceHealth (about 94%) in the form of a subsidy payment (contracts regarding this are on the District's website) while the remainder funds SJCPHD #1 operations. The second levy funds SJIEMS exclusively.

Hutchins then discussed property. The real estate and equipment used by SJIEMS is owned by SJCPHD #1. In a merger the boards could decide what property to take with

them, there is not restriction on how this may be decided. The SJIEMS building bond which paid for EMS headquarters is paid out of the EMS levy, but the levy is owned by SJCPHD #1.

SJCPHD #1 budget is sound, though this year it has not been able to add to its reserves. This is due primarily to increased labor costs. The sale of the IIMC is a crucial consideration as monthly maintenance is a significant line item on the SJCPHD #1 operations budget. The sum of money from the sale is intended by board resolution to pay down the SJIEMS building bond.

If SJIEMS is moved out of SJCPHD #1 Superintendent Hutchins stated that it would be an opportunity to focus on new health challenges in the community.

Questions discussed a range of issues:

- Do you have any thoughts about the state of EMS services?
- What is your perception regarding the capacity of SJIEMS to recruit new volunteers?
- How would you characterize morale at SJIEMS?
- Do hiring practices contribute to perception of SJIEMS?
- Would access to the pool of volunteers at FD #3 help SJIEMS?
- Is the relationship between SJIEMS and PeaceHealth going well? Do they work well together?
- Does PeaceHealth have any concerns about having paramedics under the hospital district?
- From your perspective how do you look at the merger?
- Do you perceive that SJIEMS and the SJCPHD #1 board are in favor of a merger?
- Are there any hurdles with the hospital district internal to the PHD?
- Reflecting on the difficulty EMS had with its last levy, how does that inform what is coming?
- Would you say EMS is past the negativity from the last levy cycle?

Chair Dalldorf thanked Hutchins for her visit and presentation. Superintendent Hutchins left at this point.

**Citizen's Advisory Board Working Session:** The members of the Citizen's Advisory Group discussed amongst themselves where they were at and how to proceed next.

The group discussed the options going forward: make no changes to the current model, privatize and/or contract for services, or move into another entity.

Next year (2019) four SJCPHD #1 commissioner seats will be up for election and the ideas generated by the CAG may play into campaigns. There will also be a new FD #3 chief in fall 2018 and likely a new SJIEMS Chief in the near future.

The CAG discussed when and how to hire legal help.

**Public Comment:**

Karin Augusta commented on the last EMS levy.

**New Business:**

None.

**Set Meeting Schedule:**

The CAG agreed to meet Sept 5<sup>th</sup> at 669 Mullis Street.

**Adjournment: Chair Dalldorf adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.**



Signed by Chair

Sept 5 2018

Date

**The original document is retained at the San Juan County Public Hospital District #1 Office at 849 Spring Street, Unit B-5, Friday Harbor, WA 98250 in San Juan County Public Hospital District #1 permanent proceedings file.**

**Attest: Nathan Butler, Board Recording Secretary for SJCPHD #1**